MIQDASH BETHEL COVENANT INSTITUTION
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November 8, 2026

The Editor-in-Chief
East African Journal of Traditions, Culture and Religion
East African Nature and Science Organization
Nairobi, Kenya
editor@eanso.org

Re: Submission of an original research article, "From Beyond the Rivers of Cush: Africa and African Peoples in the Covenant Texts of the Hebrew Bible"

Dear Editor,

I am pleased to submit the enclosed manuscript, "From Beyond the Rivers of Cush: Africa and African Peoples in the Covenant Texts of the Hebrew Bible," for consideration as a research article in the East African Journal of Traditions, Culture and Religion. The study examines what the covenant texts of the Hebrew Bible say about the African peoples they name, Cush, Egypt, and Put, and how those texts answer the so-called curse of Ham and the Hamitic hypothesis that shaped colonial accounts of East Africa. The manuscript runs to about 5,400 words before references and has been prepared according to the journal's author guidelines, with APA referencing.

I confirm that the manuscript is my original work, that it has not been published before, and that it is not under consideration by any other journal. I am its sole author. The study received no external funding, and I have no conflict of interest to declare beyond the confessional position stated openly in the Materials and Methods section. I understand that an article processing charge applies after acceptance, and I agree to publication under the Creative Commons Attribution License used by EANSO journals.

The article fits the journal's scope and EANSO's stated philosophy of telling African narratives from the African perspective. Its central finding is that the Hebrew Bible presents Africa as an original participant in the covenant history rather than a late recipient of a foreign faith. It engages African biblical scholarship directly, including the work of David Tuesday Adamo, Knut Holter, and Aloo Mojola, and the 1999 Nairobi symposium on interpreting the Old Testament in Africa.

I am the founder of Miqdash Bethel Covenant Institution, a free church established in 2012 in the United States. Our work is the study of the written Hebrew Bible, the Tanakh, which we hold as our sole doctrinal authority, and we address Jewish, Christian, and Muslim readers together. Our library of nearly 400 numbered studies is published freely at miqdashbethel.ai. Miqdash Bethel has ties to Kenya: a pastor in Kisii teaches from our studies, and we expect to serve readers in other African nations.

Because other organizations that use the name of Yahweh have brought reproach on that name, I wish to state our position plainly. Miqdash Bethel Covenant Institution is not a religious cult. It is not affiliated with any other religious organization that uses the name of Yahweh. We ask no money and no membership of those who read our work, and our teaching

is published openly so that anyone may test it against the written text. The authority we point readers to is the text itself, not any leader, including its founder.

Our values agree with the core values of EANSO: integrity, accountability, continuous improvement, honesty, and commitment to scholars. The article grades every finding by the strength of its textual evidence and reports scholarly debates rather than settling them by assumption. I welcome the reviewers' critique.

A Kiswahili version of the article is also available, in support of EANSO's work to make its journals accessible in Kiswahili. I can provide it, or any further information, on request.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Respectfully,

Elder Peter Paul Arcemont
(also known as Kepha Arcemont)
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Enclosure: Manuscript (.docx)